

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES  
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION  
Olympia, Washington**

<b>To:</b>	Hospitals Clinics Federally Qualified Health Centers Physicians Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners Managed Care Plans Regional Administrators CSO Administrators	<b>Memorandum #: 00-71 MAA</b> <b>Issued:</b> December 15, 2000  <b>For information, call:</b> 1-800-562-6188
<b>From:</b>	James C. Wilson, Assistant Secretary Medical Assistance Administration	
<b>Subject:</b>	Updated Billing and Reimbursement Requirements for the Diabetes Education Program	

**Effective with dates of service on and after July 1, 2000**, the Medical Assistance Administration (MAA) changed the following areas of the Diabetes Education Program:

- Who can apply to be a diabetes education provider;
- Maximum allowable rates; and
- Frequency of reimbursement for core modules per client.

**Note:** MAA has not made any changes to hospital reimbursement for billing for diabetes education at this time.



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## Provider Qualifications/Requirements

- No changes were made to the actual application and approval process.
- Before July 1, 2000, only hospitals and Federally Qualified Health Centers could apply to become diabetes education providers. **Effective July 1, 2000, ALL** physicians, clinics, and rural health centers are eligible to be diabetes education providers. MAA requires that established criteria are used to evaluate all applications. Criteria is developed and applications evaluated by the Diabetes Control Program (DCP) at the Department of Health (DOH).

To obtain an application and reference list, write or call:

Diabetes Control Program  
Department of Health  
PO Box 47836  
Olympia, WA 98504-7836  
(253) 872-2953

Once the approval has been granted by DOH, an MAA billing provider number will be assigned. Use this provider number on **all diabetes education claims** billed to MAA.

## Rate Increase

- **For claims with dates of service on and after July 1, 2000**, MAA increased the hourly rate from \$40.00 per module hour to **\$45.00** per module hour. MAA reimburses a maximum of three units (three module hours) per client, per date of service. Providers must bill modules in increments of one-hour units.

Following is a list of the applicable diabetes education state-unique procedure codes and reimbursement rates for non-hospital billing:

Effective for dates of service on and after July 1, 2000		
Core Module	State-Unique Procedure Code	Reimbursement Rate
Nutrition	1650M	\$45.00/hour
Exercise	1651M	\$45.00/hour
Prevention of Acute Complication	1652M	\$45.00/hour
Prevention of Chronic Complications	1653M	\$45.00/hour
Monitoring	1654M	\$45.00/hour
Medication	1655M	\$45.00/hour

## Billing

- To be reimbursed for diabetes education, providers must:

- ✓ Use the state-unique procedure codes listed above;
- ✓ Bill on the HCFA-1500 claim form; and
- ✓ Bill for “face to face” session only.

Only DOH-qualified, MAA-approved clinics may bill for diabetes education. Individual instructors may not bill for diabetes education.

- Providers may bill diabetes education procedure codes more than one time and in combination for the same date of service.

**Example:** A client starting insulin may receive one hour of the medication module, one hour of nutrition, and one hour of acute complications.

- Providers must teach a minimum of one hour per billed module. If combinations of modules apply, bill the procedure code that represents the major content area.

**Example:** If a client receives 45 minutes of the nutrition module and 15 minutes of the medication module, bill the one-hour unit using state-unique procedure code 1650M.

- Based on initial assessment, patients may receive diabetes education on a one-on-one basis or in a group setting (billed on an individual client basis), if the program requirements are met.
- Referrals for diabetes education must be obtained from the client’s licensed health care provider and the referral number must be in fields “17” and “17a” on the HCFA-1500 claim form.

## Frequency of Diabetes Education

MAA changed the maximum allowed amount of Diabetes Education taught from 6 hours of core modules per client, per lifetime to **6 hours of core modules per client, per calendar year.**



**Note:** MAA does not reimburse for diabetes education for a client if those services are an expected part of another program provided to the client (e.g. school-based health services or adult day health services).